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IMPORTANT MEDIA UPDATE

MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS NOT THE CAUSE IN WEDNESDAY'S INMATE DEATH

Smryna, DE - Today the Department of Correction announced the preliminary laboratory results from Public Health were found to be negative for Meningococcal Meningitis. This is significant, because Meningococcal is the worse strain of meningitis.

Last night, the Department of Correction announced that the Medical Examiners Office had determined a possible cause of death of inmate Demetrius Caldwell was Meningococcal Meningitis. Caldwell died in the prison infirmary Wednesday afternoon January 10, 2007. As is standard procedure, his body had been turned over to the Medical Examiner.

Prior to his death, Caldwell had no known life threatening illness and there were no obvious indications as to the cause of death. The cause of death remains undetermined and is still under investigation.

Last evening, despite not knowing the lab test results, the Department of Correction began preventive antibiotic measures for all inmates and staff that may have been in situations to come into direct contact with Mr. Caldwell's bodily secretions, which according to Public Health is how Meningococcal Meningitis is spread. The Department of Correction will continue to work with the Medical Examiner to determine the cause of Caldwell's death.

Caldwell, of Dover, DE was committed to the Delaware Correctional Center on November 6, 2006 for Violation of Probation. The original charge for the Violation of Probation was Possession with the Intent to Deliver a Narcotic Schedule II Controlled Substance - Cocaine.

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